GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2722
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2008
INDO US TRADE
Oram Shri Jual

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to increase Indo-U.S. bilateral trade;

(b) if so, the new areas in which Indo-U.S. bilateral trade is proposed to be expanded in the coming years;

(c) the details of areas in which trade relation has already been established between both the countries during each of the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to boost the bilateral trade between both the countries?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

a) to c): Yes, Sir.During the visit of President Bush in March 2006 to India the two Governments decided to double bilateral trade within three years. There is progress towards achieving the target.

(Value in US$ million)

Year	Exports	Growth(%)	Imports	Growth(%)	Balance of Trade
2004-05	13765.75	19.81	7001.35	39.06(+)	6764.40
2005-06	17353.06	26.06	9454.74	35.04 (+)	7898.32
2006-07	18,851.42	8.63	11,726.96	24.03 (+)	7124.46

(Source: DGCI&S, Calcutta)

The areas identified for enhancing bilateral trade which are being promoted through dialogue under the Indo-US Trade Policy Forum (TPF) and Commercial Dialogue include agriculture, services, investment, innovation & creativity and removal/reduction of tariffs and non-tariff barriers. Cooperation between small & medium enterprises of the two countries in manufacturing/service sectors is also being fostered.

Major items of Indian exports to the USA include gems & jewellery, ready made garments cotton including accessories, machinery and instruments, manufactures of metals, drugs, pharmaceuticals, fine chemicals. Major import items from the USA to India include transport equipments, electronic goods, machinery items, fertilizers manufactured and professional instruments.

d): To increase and diversify Indo-US bilateral trade, the Government holds regular dialogue with the US Government, including under the Trade Policy Forum and Commercial Dialogue.The Embassy of India and the four Indian Consulates (in the United States) undertake regular market promotion activities to increase Indian exports, including assisting visiting business delegations from India, conducting market surveys and responding to the trade enquiries.